BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA DOCKET NO. 2019-86-T

Application of Carwin Logistics, LLC for a Class E (Household Goods) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Operation of Motor Vehicle Carrier

PREFILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ALDIN BROWN

- 1 Q. Please state your name, employer, and business address.
- 2 A. My name is Aldin Brown. I am the sole member of Carwin Logistics, LLC ("Carwin")
- 3 located at 3803 Poplar Grove Place, Summerville, South Carolina, 29483. Our mailing address is
- 4 1317 N. Main Street, Suite 206, Summerville, South Carolina 29483.
- 5 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?
- 6 A. I am testifying in support of Carwin's Application for a Class E Certificate of Public
- 7 Convenience and Necessity with statewide authority.
- 8 Q. Is Carwin organized to transact business in the State of South Carolina?
- 9 A. Yes, Carwin is a South Carolina Limited Liability Company, established on August 9,
- 10 2013. A copy of a Certificate of Good Standing was filed with Carwin's Application, and the
- 11 company remains in good standing.
- 12 Q. How did you become associated with Carwin?
- 13 **A.** I am the organizer and sole member of Carwin.
- 14 Q. Please tell the Commission about your education and work history?
- 15 A. I graduated from Piper High School in Sunrise, Florida. I briefly attended a private college
- to study business administration but discontinued when my 2-year-old son came to live with me.

- I have had a variety of jobs. I've been a delivery helper at Rooms to Go, a stock clerk at Sound
- 2 Advice, a technician for Motorola, and a foreman for American Van Lines. I started Carwin
- 3 Logistics in 2013.
- 4 Q. Do you have any experience providing moving services?
- 5 A. Yes. Carwin has provided commercial moving services since 2013. Carwin's clients
- 6 include Charleston County School District, Alfred Williams & Company, and Cumming,
- 7 Winchester Xavier & Associates. Carwin is one of four small movers recently awarded a contract
- 8 pursuant to an RFP issued by the Charleston County School District. Carwin was also recently
- 9 awarded a contract as the sole provider of moving services for the College of Charleston. Copies
- of the award notices are attached as Exhibit A to my testimony.
- 11 Q. Has Carwin provided household goods moving services?
- 12 A. No. On a few occasions we have helped with the packing and unpacking of household
- goods, but we did not transport them to their destination.
- 14 Q. Please describe the new services Carwin would like to provide.
- 15 A. Carwin will provide all services associated with household goods moving such as
- transportation, packing, unpacking, and physical labor.
- 17 Q. How employees will Carwin have?
- 18 **A**. Carwin will have four employees.
- 19 Q. How will you train your employees?
- 20 A. Employees will be provided training videos published on YouTube. I will train and test
- 21 them. Carwin also plans to create a training manual that employees will be tested on.
- 22 Q. Does Carwin own or lease any vehicles?

- 1 A. Yes, Carwin owns a 2005 Chevrolet Express G2500 cargo van and a 2005 International
- 2 truck.
- 3 Q. Does Carwin plan to acquire other vehicles?
- 4 A. Yes. Our plans are to acquire another 26ft Box truck, a 16ft Box truck, a 53ft tractor trailer,
- 5 and a 15-passenger van for personnel transport. Based on projected revenue from our commercial
- 6 contracts, we should be able to acquire these assets before next summer.
- 7 Q. Will Carwin be insured?
- 8 A. Yes, an insurance quote is attached to Carwin's Application. We have general liability,
- 9 commercial auto and cargo insurance, and Worker's Compensation coverage.
- 10 Q. Does Carwin have a proposed tariff?
- 11 **A**. Carwin's proposed tariff is attached as Exhibit B.
- 12 Q. How will you quote the cost of a move to a customer?
- 13 A. Carwin will only provide an estimated cost of a move; not a fixed price. Our quotes are
- based upon estimated time, moving experience, and what clients convey they need moved. On-site
- estimates will be performed if deemed necessary.
- 16 Q. Does Carwin have a Bill of Lading?
- 17 A. Yes, I've attached a Bill of Lading form to my testimony as (Exhibit C)
- 18 Q. Will Carwin provide a Bill of Lading for each move it conducts?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Why do you believe there is a need for Carwin's services in South Carolina?
- 21 A. As the housing market rebounds from the recession, more people need the services of a
- 22 good moving company. According to the Federal Reserve, the state's unemployment rate is about
- 23 3.8% and the median family incomes have risen across the state: +8.28 % in the Charleston MSA,

DOCKET NO. 2019-86-T DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ALDIN BROWN

- 1 +4.33% in the Columbia MSA, and +7.09 % in the Greenville MSA. See Federal Reserve Bank
- of Richmond, South Carolina Snapshot (attached as Exhibit D).
- The United States Census Bureau also estimates South Carolina grew by 9.9% to over 5
- 4 million people between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2018. The state now has more than 5 million
- 5 people. Much of the growth has been in the Charleston-Berkeley-Dorchester tri-county area where
- 6 Carwin is located. See U.S. Census Bureau Quick Facts, South Carolina,
- 7 www.census.gov/quickfacts/sc. For instance, Berkley county is now the second-fastest growing
- 8 county in the state. Even though the broader tri-county area's growth has slowed in recent years,
- 9 it still gains an average of 34 people each day. In other parts of the state, Spartanburg is now the
- 10 19th fastest growing metropolitan area in the country and among the top five in South Carolina. *Id*.
- 11 Twenty of South Carolina's counties have lost population. *Id.* All these statistics reveal people
- moving into and around South Carolina and suggest that demand for qualified movers will
- 13 continue to be strong.

14 Q. How will Carwin reach its customers?

- 15 **A.** We plan to market Carwin through newspapers, social media, and word of mouth. Carwin
- has provided reliable service to our commercial clients for over five years without accident, injury,
- or failure. We have never refused a project or missed a deadline. We supplement our income with
- these commercial contracts, which as of now will be effect to 2024.

19 Q. Is Carwin's financially able to provide service to the public?

20 **A.** Yes. As shown on our application, Carwin's is financially viable.

[&]quot;Population growth slowed in Charleston County, soared in Horry, Berkeley and Spartanburg", *Post and Courier*, April 18, 2019 (Exhibit E).

- 1 Q. Are there any outstanding court orders or judgments against Carwin's or you,
- 2 personally?
- 3 **A.** No.
- 4 Q. Are you aware of any complaints filed against Carwin's or you with the Better
- 5 Business Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce, or any state, or municipal court or agency?
- 6 **A.** No.
- 7 Q. Have you or Carwin's ever been convicted of a crime?
- 8 A. Yes. In 2004, I pled guilty to possession of over 20 grams of marijuana. On September 18,
- 9 2007, I pled guilty to burglary with assault, resisting an officer with violence, and battery on a law
- 10 enforcement officer. As a result, I served three years in prison in Florida. I have had no other
- charges or convictions, other than minor traffic offenses since my release in 2010. I did not have
- the finances to fight the case.
- 13 Q. Are you familiar with, and do you agree to comply with the statutes and regulations
- 14 that govern the operation of intrastate household goods movers in South Carolina?
- 15 **A.** Yes, and Carwin will comply with them.
- 16 Q. Have you published a notice of Carwin's Application?
- 17 **A.** Yes. A Notice of Filing was published in the *Post and Courier* newspaper on March 20,
- 18 2019. An Affidavit of Publication was filed with the Commission on March 25, 2019.
- 19 Q. What is Carwin's plan for the next five years?
- 20 A. We aspire to increase our capabilities to serve the community by acquiring more trained
- 21 personal, moving trucks, and office spaces. We take great pride in our work and, therefore believe
- 22 the key to increasing sales is to implement a rigorous training program that focuses on careful
- handling, customer service, and safety. We plan to maintain a stable controlled growth as to not

DOCKET NO. 2019-86-T DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ALDIN BROWN

- overwhelm ourselves without the ability to maintain the quality of service we pride ourselves on
- 2 providing.
- 3 Q. Would it be in the public interest for the Commission to grant Carwin a Certificate
- 4 of Public Convenience and Necessity?
- 5 A. Yes. Carwin has shown a demand for household moves services in South Carolina, and
- 6 the company is qualified to provide them. While I understand my past criminal convictions may
- 7 give rise to questions, the record shows I have turned my life around after my release from prison.
- 8 The conviction was nearly 12 years ago, and it has been almost 10 years since I completed my
- 9 sentence. I am now married and run a successful business, and now I am ready to expand my
- business in the household goods moving market.
- 11 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 12 A. Yes.